

THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY



VOLUME XXXV.
NUMBER 25.

CALCUTTA:—MONDAY, JUNE 18, 1888.

Per Annum in Advance
TOWN 11-8
MOFUSSIL 13-4

THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 11TH JUNE.

THE Chins having now betaken themselves back to their hills, the expeditionary columns which were sent out after them have been directed to return to their quarters. The Kalewa column at Indin retires at once, the troops composing it dispersing to their respective stations; and the column which was moving on Gungow from Pouk has received orders to retrace its steps. It is said that at any rate a settlement with them will be come to once for all during next cold weather.

THE recent circular of the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces regarding the exemption of improvements from assessment has laid down a plain and simple rule of easy application for the guidance of Settlement Officers in a difficult matter. All durable improvements are to be exempted from assessment at the next ensuing settlement; and the exemption is to be extended to the embankment of land by the construction of substantial banks and the irrigation of land by durable means. As it is expected that future settlements in the Central Provinces will be made for 20 years, the maximum term of exemption from assessment will thus be 39 years the minimum 21. It is, however, provided that if the minimum seems too short, the Settlement Officer can grant a certificate extending the period of exemption over the next succeeding settlement.

THE Amir has just sent two more regiments from Kabul to Jellalabad to strengthen his force operating towards Bajour. Some seventy-five camel-loads of arms purchased by Mr. Pyne, his Engineer, in England, have passed up the Khyber for Kabul.

THE Pioneer understands that the proposals of the Government of India, which have been concurred in by the Governments of Madras and Bombay, for the revision of the staff commands in India, have now been sanctioned by the Secretary of State. There will be six 1st class districts in Bengal, each commanded by a Major-General, namely, Allahabad, Lahore, Meerut, Oudh, Rawalpindi, and Quetta; and eight Brigadier-General's or 2nd class district commands, namely, Sirhind, Eastern Frontier, Presidency, Bundelkhand, Rohilkand, Nerbudda, Peshawar and the Punjab Frontier Force. In Madras there will be two 1st class district commands, namely Secunderabad and Burma, and six Brigadier-General's, or 2nd class district commands, namely, Northern, Bangalore, Southern, Eastern and two in Burma. In Bombay there will be two divisional or 1st class district commands, namely, Poona and Mhow; and five 2nd class districts, Bombay, Sind, Northern, Aden, and Kampti. The rates of pay for 1st and 2nd class district commands will be Rs. 3,500 as at present and Rs. 2,200, consolidated, respectively.

TOBACCO VERTIGO.—Having investigated sixty three cases of excessive use of tobacco, Decaisne finds forty-nine to be over fifty years of age. More than half the cases presented, besides digestive derangements, alternating constipation and diarrhoea, an exaggeration of the urinary secretion and more or less abundant sweats, insomnia, and palpitation. In thirty seven cases the smokers pursued the habit of fasting, and in these vertigo was present especially in the morning. The appearance of the vertigo coincides in one-third of the cases with the suppression of the profuse sweats and marked diminution of the urinary secretion. Sometimes the vertiginous symptoms have been confounded with those due to cerebral congestion, and even to heart disease. Besides the absolute suppression of the use of tobacco, laxatives, warm baths, magnesia, and bitters are prescribed. Injections of ether subcutaneously also appeared to stop the vertigo in a few minutes.

THE Americans have hit upon a device by which they hope to dispense with bait altogether. The United States steamship *Albatross* has been fitted up with electric lamps for fishing purposes. These lamps are encased in wire netting. The fish, attracted by the lights, swarm into the net and are easily caught without other bait. If, as is now claimed, the electric light will answer all the purposes of bait, the Americans will have no occasion to buy from the Canadians,

and Canadian fishermen will lose one of the natural advantages that they now have over Americans.

TUESDAY, 12TH JUNE.

AN invention is being exhibited in Liverpool, by means of which an Italian named Carlo Bozza can not only give—without other aid than electricity—performances upon a variety of musical instruments at the same time, but can also reproduce the music at any distance. Signor Bozza has also invented a new musical instrument, playable only by electricity. It is made of porcelain, and from it he is said to produce music unique in sweetness and penetration.

THE people of the Malee caste at Ahmednagar decided some time back that none of them should drink liquor. A few days ago, however, three of them did so and the result was that their caste people tied bottles of liquor round their necks and took them round the station as a punishment.

Drs. Koch and Wolffhuzel, at the request of the German Government, have been making experiments upon the value of steam as a disinfectant. They report that the direct action of steam at 212° Fahr. is sufficient to destroy most germs in from five to ten minutes, and that the most tenacious spores succumb to this treatment, if it is continued for fifteen minutes. On the other hand, the effect of heated dry air as a disinfectant is quite uncertain, even though its temperature be very high.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *British Medical Journal* (Surgeon W. T. Black) makes the following interesting remarks on the injurious effect of tea on the teeth:—"Some years since, when on duty at recruiting stations in the North of England, I took observation on the great amount of disease and loss of the teeth existing amongst the class of men offering themselves. It became a cause of rejection of itself in great numbers. As far as my inquiries went, I was led to trace it to the excessive tea-drinking indulged in by the working classes in the manufacturing towns, and this went on all through the day, whether with food or not. In fact, instead of five o'clock tea being the invention of the upper classes, it was found to exist to an injurious extent in the working classes long before that time. Tea seems to have a peculiar tendency to cause hyperæmia in the tooth sacs, leading to inflammation and, eventually, abscess of the fang, with, of course, dentalgia at every stage. Whether this special tendency was due to theine or tannin having an elective affinity for dentine, it is not possible for me to say. It will be curious to know if medical men, practising in such manufacturing districts, had observed the deterioration of teeth to be coincident with tea-drinking."

A CONTEMPORARY draws the attention of the Government to the fact that Dr. Wall in his book on "Indian Snake-poisons" has shown how by the use of an India rubber band the absorption of poisons, in cases of snake-biting, can be stopped, and has suggested that every Thanah and every Dispensary in Districts where snake-bites are common, should have such a band; and that officials should be instructed how to apply it properly.

THE Government of India have telegraphed to the Secretary of State that they have no objection to the Select Committee to inquire into the grievances of the Uncovenanted Service. This telegram has been sent in view of the debate on Mr. H. S. King's motion.

BHIM BHUTTI, an outlaw who occupied the same position in Kattywar that Tantiia Bhil does in the Central Provinces, has been killed. The Police came upon the gang, dacoiting a house, and, after discharging their muskets at random, fled the scene. One bullet, at last, found its billet, killing Bhim Bhutti on the spot.

THE Travancore Government have decided to propose the adoption of the standing orders of the Madras Board of Revenue. The measure will be considered at the first meetings of the new Legislative Council. The same Government has ordered the heads of departments and the Dewan and Peshkars to invite the opinions and complaints of the people of their Districts, keeping a register of the same, and submitting copies to the Government.

WEDNESDAY, 13TH JUNE.

THE *Bengalee* says:—"We have been requested to announce that His Highness the Maharajah of Vizianagram has paid the sum of fifteen thousand rupees in aid of the Building Fund of the Indian Association. The Association will now have a name and habitation for which it will be indebted to the princely munificence of the Maharajah."

A POSITIVE contradiction is given at St. Petersburg to the reports that Russia was preparing a *Coup de main* in Central Asia or in Persia. It is added that measures taken by the Russian Government are merely of a precautionary character having for their object the protection of the Russian frontier in view of possible insurrectionary movements in the province of Herat.

St. Petersburg advices received in Vienna state that a recent attempt upon the Czar's life was frustrated by mere chance. During a military parade at Tearkoe Selo, at which the Emperor, the Empress, and the entire Court were present a cavalry lieutenant held up a revolver, and was about to pull the trigger, the barrels being pointed at his Majesty, when a sub-lieutenant of his regiment wrenched the revolver from his hand, so that the bullet went into the ground. When he was arrested the officer spoke and acted like a madman. His name is said to be Timofieff.

LADY LANSDOWNE is said to have accepted the office of Lady-President of Central Committee of the Countess of Dufferin's Fund.

EVERYTHING seems to be perfectly quiet at Muscat. Colonel Ross left Bushire for Muscat as soon as the news of the Sultan's death reached him, and he should be on the spot now.

ALL the opinions of the local Governments upon the Public Service Commission's Report are expected to be in by the end of the current month. Bombay, Madras, and the Punjab are the only ones still to be received.

It is reported that the Government of the North-Western Provinces have for the present relinquished the idea of carrying the construction of the Lucknow-Sitapur State Railway farther. The maintenance of the present length of line, 105 miles, will be added to the charge of the Executive Engineer, Provincial Division, and the services of the Executive Engineer, now in charge of the line will be available for transfer.

THE Lucknow *Express* is informed that some of the people of Rewah, who are not satisfied or encouraged by the results of the Vice-regal visit there, have held a meeting and contemplate a movement in England with a view to having an inquiry into the state of affairs there, especially as to the treatment and position of the Maharani. They desire the appointment of a Commission which may at least contain a fair percentage of a non-official element.

A BOMBAY contemporary announces that "a Bill to amend the law relating to certain Officers in India" has been drafted, and will shortly be introduced into the House of Commons by Sir John Gorst, Under-Secretary of State for India. It gives power to the Governor-General in Council, at the request of the Secretary of State in Council, to require the presence of officers in England without loss of offices. An officer granted such leave may, if the Secretary of State so determine, receive during absence from India a portion of his salary not exceeding one-half, and provided he returns and resumes duty within the time specified by the Secretary of State, he may recover the balance he would have drawn in India. During his absence the Governor-General of India is to appoint a *locum tenens* on such salary as he may think fit. The officers affected by the Bill are the Governor-General and members of his Council, the Governors of Madras and Bombay and their Councils, the Commanders in Chief of India, Bombay and Madras, and the Lieutenant-Governors of Bengal, N. W. Provinces, and the Punjab.

ENTERTAINMENTS by the American whistling lady, Mrs. Shaw, are now being given in London drawing-rooms. This musical executant has at command a

repertory of forty compositions, much of it good music, and some of it specially written for her. This is how a correspondent of the *New York Herald* describes a whistling interlude:—"Now the notes burst forth gaily like the laugh of a bobolink, and again they sink away soft as the evening breeze. She produces a tone which would rise clear and steady above an orchestra, and with equal ease sustain her upper B flat so gently that one almost loses the sound. Trills, high notes, and low; every trick that is known to the throat of a bird, or the voice of a *prima donna*, this wonderful whistler can imitate on her lips."

A new comer has created, we hear, some flutter in the legal dove-cot of Alipore. Display of temper on the bench is never compatible with due administration of justice, and a Judge that cares to maintain the dignity of his court must learn to respect the Bar. The subordinate judicial service of Bengal is remarkable for all judge-like qualities, and it is pity that there should be occasion to speak otherwise of any single of its members. We hope a recurrence to the subject will not be necessary.

THURSDAY, 14TH JUNE.

It is rumoured at Delhi that all the old buildings, with the exception of the Maqbaras of Humayun and Sudder Jung and Kntab Sahib's Lath, are to be sold by public auction! Quite possible.

MEHER Jan, the widow of the victim in what is known as the Doveton murder case, is about seventeen years of age, and has been left totally unprovided for with two young children; and the Deputy Commissioner of Police, considering that this was a deserving case, got up a subscription for her which has now reached the sum of Rs. 230. This money it is proposed to pay to Meher Jan for her maintenance at the rate of Rs. 8 per month, which is the sum that it is estimated her husband used to earn in his work as a *gharami*.

THE *Rangoon Gazette* says it is denied that Sir Charles Elliott will be the first Lieutenant-Governor of British Burmah.

THE Punjab Government has just sanctioned an expenditure of Rs. 11,000 to complete the roofing and other works of the Simla Town Hall.

THE Government of India has, it is understood, called for the opinions of Provincial Government, on a proposal to revise relations at present existing between them in the matter of the grant of loans to cultivators for survey operations to landholders for advances to special Revenue Departments, etc.

GENERAL Prejevalsky will start in August next on his fourth journey in Central Asia. He will be equipped for two years' travel, the ultimate destination of his expedition being Lhasa, the capital of Tibet. The General will be accompanied by an escort of twenty-eight persons, including 12 Cossacks, and two scientific companions.

A CONTEMPORARY writes:—"It is said that there has been a good deal of talk about the way in which valuable presents have been made by, or taken from, native Princes and Chiefs by visitors and others in this country. This has been a growing evil since the time of the visit of the Duke of Edinburgh. There were many complaints then of the presents 'accepted' without any equivalent return, which is always an understood condition in this country. The practice was further carried out afterwards on the visit of the Prince of Wales. People thought that they had given valuable presents on the usual understanding; but they had received in return nothing but a knife, a book, or a photograph of no intrinsic value. This has been felt as a grievance, and it has been a growing one, as since the visit of the Prince, the Indian trip has become popular with the British aristocracy and others. It is said that in some cases the practice has become so scandalous that it will probably be brought to the notice of Parliament."

GENERAL Soboleff, says the *Morning Post*, continues to discuss the prospects of an invasion of India with characteristic frankness. He thinks the completion of the Samarkhand Railway the beginning of the end, which end, he says, will be the future campaign of Russian troops across the Indus. "The stronger Russia is in the Central Asia, the weaker will be the British Power in India, and the more complaisant will be British diplomacy in Europe." Referring to Lord Randolph Churchill's opinion as to the consequence of the Crimean war, General Soboleff concludes with the remark:—"In order to assure England's dominion in India, which, in many respects, depends upon Russia, the latter has a right to demand the security of her command of the Black Sea. Only in this sense is a durable understanding possible; without such an understanding, England

will always be threatened with the danger of losing India."

FRIDAY, 15TH JUNE.

THE new Railway Bill which is to apply to all India, was sent to England for the consideration of the Secretary of State by the last mail.

A MOVEMENT has been set on foot by some of the leading citizens of Bombay for the erection of a suitable Memorial in commemoration of the many services rendered by the late Sir Frank Souter, and a meeting of the deceased's friends and admirers is to be held shortly at Mazagon Castle to make the necessary preliminary arrangements.

THE progress of works on the first portion of the Nagpore-Bengal Railway from Assansole on the East Indian (Chord Line) Railway, under Messrs. Rothschilds, has so far proceeded that a trial trip with engine and wagons will be made during the week.

MR. F. J. MOUAT, late of the Bengal Educational Department, lately delivered an excellent lecture on the history of the progress of English education in India, at a meeting of an Edinburgh literary institute. In the course of his long and interesting speech, Mr. Mouat paid a tribute of deserved praise to the Bengalis. He expressed his regret at the somewhat rough manner in which the Bengalis have been unjustly handled of late. Mr. Mouat remarked: "Some thirty years of the most active period of my life were passed among the Bengalis, and I am of opinion that in power of mind, in intellectual culture, in the strength of their domestic feelings, and in the possession of those qualities which are the foundation of true human greatness, they are entitled to a very high place in the scale of nations."

A REMARKABLE little weather-wise plant is now said to be on exhibition at the Jubilee Flower Show recently opened in Vienna. According to the account supplied by the proprietor of this natural curiosity it belongs to the family of the sensitive plants, but is so extremely meteorometric that it not only moves if touched but will close its leaves forty-eight hours in advance of any change in the weather. It seems, moreover, to be the most Catholic of barometers; for it foretells not only rain, wind, and storms, but earthquakes and other subterranean movements. The plant is to be bought for £6.

It is notified that in future an application for furlough without medical certificate from a Commissioned Medical Officer subject to Civil Rules, serving in the Bengal Presidency or Burmah, or directly under the Government of India, should be submitted by the local administrative medical officer to the Surgeon-General with the Government of India, who is the administrative head of the Indian Medical Department. The Surgeon-General will countersign the application, if the state of the public service admits of leave being granted, and return it to the local administrative medical officer. If the state of the public service does not admit of leave being granted, the Surgeon-General with the Government of India will abstain from countersigning the application. On the application so countersigned, or from which countersignature has been withheld, the Local Government will to once be in a position to pass the necessary orders. The same procedure will be followed in the case of medical officers applying for extension of furlough on private affairs.

A TELEGRAM from Mhow says:—"In the appeal case of Khema Naique of Satwara, who stands charged with having harboured and sheltered in his village Tantia Bhil, the proclaimed dacoit, the Indore Sudder Court has decided to try the whole case afresh. The case of Khema Naique is one of no common interest. Khema is a Banjara, the possessor of certain villages in Holkar's territory, a man of substance with a large company of followers all well armed with muskets, spears and swords. The intimacy with the celebrated dacoit Tantia was, it appears, contracted early in life. For a long time the connection was a source of profit to both parties: to Tantia who, when he was hard pressed, used to obtain shelter and supplies from Khema and his men; to Khema who received solid consideration for services which he was thus able to render. It was long ago discovered by the Central Provinces officers who were after the dacoit that he had an asylum in Holkar's territory, and it was Khema who used to give him shelter on these occasions. This disturbance of these relations began with the servants. One day about three years ago Khema was robbed by those of his own household. He seized four men whom he suspected and delivered them over to the hands of the local magistrate. But on Tantia's standing security for the men Khema withdrew his charge. Confidence, how-

ever, was sapped: and the end of the matter was that some of the released servants formed against Khema at head quarters. The case was taken up by the late Dewan who had to baffle many attempts that were made in high quarters to get the matter shelved, but eventually Khema was brought up before the Sessions Judge on the 15th May last and sentenced to seven years imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 1,000. It is this sentence which is now being appealed to the Sudder Court of the State. If properly followed up the case may possibly supply a clue to the movements of Tantia that might lead to the apprehension of that irrepressible out-law.

SATURDAY, 16TH JUNE.

THE Tavoy district still continues disturbed. The telegraph wires have been cut in several places, and communication with Rangoon is interrupted. A few days ago information was brought into Tavoy that the rebels have mustered in force, 250 strong, 12 miles from the town with the avowed intention of attacking the place. The entire European community took refuge in the court-house, which was hurriedly barricaded.

THE International Conference that has assembled at Sydney to consider the question of preventing the emigration of Chinese labourers to Australia has resolved to appeal to the Imperial Government to arrange a treaty with China similar to the treaty concluded between China and the United States for the prevention of Chinese immigration into the Australasian Colonies. It has further resolved to ask the Imperial Government to induce the authorities at Hongkong, the Straits, and Labuan to prohibit the emigration of Chinese from those places to the Australasian Colonies.

WE are glad to learn that in the House of Commons Sir John Gorst has denied that a special loan for frontier defences was about to be issued.

It is evident that no stones are being left unturned for stifling enquiry into the Deccan mining scandals. Several persons have been arrested by the Secunderabad police endeavouring to procure copies of telegrams sent by the Resident and the Nizam's Government on the subject of mining affairs. The telegraph signaller has confessed before the Cantonment Magistrate, and is now in custody. The others implicated have been liberated on bail, and active enquiries into the affair are being made by the police. The Select Committee that is prosecuting the enquiry in London is working half-heartedly as there is a disinclination in influential quarters to unearth the whole truth.

THE Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway will become a State Railway from the 1st of January next.

SIBERIA is henceforth to be disused as a penal settlement by Russia, and developed on the lines of a free country. The Czar has agreed to this reform, to rescue Russia from the stigma which the opinion of the Western nations fixes upon her in connexion with the territory. Detention in a home prison is to take the place of exile to the mines.

THE *Bombay Gazette* hears from a well-informed correspondent in London that the idea of a Parliamentary enquiry into the Hyderabad scandals was at first very repugnant to the Government who intended to oppose it. The intention was to have a departmental inquiry through the India Office, and this course would probably have been taken but for an unexpected service or disservice rendered by Sirdar Diler Jung's famous Yellow Book, the publication of which set the whole stone rolling. In a passage of that book, the Sirdar declared that the purchase of Deccan shares was submitted to, and approved by, the whole Council of India and the Secretary of State, who fully understood the importance of the Nizam's securing shares in the Company. This passage was brought to the attention of the leading members of the Government, who at once saw that the Secretary of State and members of the India Council could not be asked to conduct an inquiry into a matter in which it was alleged by the party most implicated that they had committed themselves to approval.

THE total number of deaths in Calcutta registered during the week ending 9th June was 193 against 188 and 181 in the two preceding weeks, and higher than the corresponding week of last year by 7. There were 25 deaths from cholera against 37 and 15 in the two preceding weeks. The number is higher than the average of the past quinquennium by 4. There were no deaths from small-pox during the week. The mortality from fevers and bowel complaints amounted to 44 and 11 respectively against 45 and 18 in the preceding week. The general death-rate of the week was 23.2 per mille per annum against 21.6, the mean of the last five years.

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MONDAY, JUNE 18, 1888.

THE EMPEROR OF GERMANY.

THE daily conflicting reports about the health of Emperor Frederick were set at rest by his peaceful death at 11 A. M. on Friday last. On Wednesday Reuter reported that the difficulty experienced by the Emperor in swallowing food continued. The condition was most alarming. He had high fever, and had to be nourished through a tube. The disease reached the gullet, and destroyed the cartilage next to the windpipe. The case was thought so bad that the Prince of Wales abstained from being present at the Ascot Races on the 12th instant. The bulletin issued on the following morning, however, stated that the Emperor had passed a good night, and that his breathing was better. His Imperial Majesty, for a while the same day, transacted State business, giving his doctors hope that his life would be preserved for some time. The hope however proved delusive, and the end so long deferred by medical skill at last came. When the approach of death became unmistakable, the Court chaplain pronounced the benediction, and administered the sacrament at midnight. Without suffering, his Majesty remained conscious up to his last moment, and amid the tears and prayers of those around, he gently and without a struggle passed away. The Empress Victoria was at the bedside of her ever-devoted consort throughout the night until the supreme moment. The Emperor's body lay in State at the Castle on Saturday and the funeral will take place to-day in Friedenskirche (Potsdam.) The ceremony will be of a simple military character, in conformity with the desire of the deceased monarch. In London the grief, as might be well expected, is wide-spread. To-day, the Marquis of Salisbury in the House of Lords, and Mr. W. H. Smith in the House of Commons, will move addresses of condolence to Her Majesty the Queen, the Empress Victoria, and the Prince of Wales. Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales have already started for Berlin. The flag at Fort William, as well as the flags of the different Consulates in Calcutta, were lowered half-mast high on Saturday as a mark of respect to the memory of the Kaiser. In the meanwhile the accession of the Crown Prince as Emperor William the Second has been officially communicated abroad. The Proclamation in Germany regarding the accession will, however, be deferred until the interment of the late Emperor.

Deadly as the blow is to the German nation his death has been a deliverance to the Emperor, and he prayed for it often in the midst of his pangs and sufferings, which he bore uncomplainingly and with exemplary fortitude. The Emperor's moral worth was as great as were his soldierly qualities and administrative capacities, and he was universally popular. His death is probably the signal for the disturbance of European peace, as his successor on the German throne, Emperor Frederick William Victor Albert, a grandson of our own well-beloved Queen-Empress, is known to have decided martial tendencies and is much in the hands of the war party headed by Prince Bismarck. The late Emperor, though he took a most prominent part in the Franco-German war of 1870, never loved war for its own sake and was always anxious to develop the resources of the Fatherland amidst peace. This policy will be now materially departed from, it is apprehended, and the peaceable death-bed counsels of the aged Kaiser Wilhelm will be lost. The international relations are, it is well-known, much strained. Only the other day Emperor Francis Joseph said that, though the Austro-German alliance remained unweakened the demand by the Austrian Government for army credits is necessitated by the increasing dubiousness of the situation in Europe and the growing readiness for war observable everywhere, compelling Austro-Hungary to make corresponding preparations for the protection of the Monarchy. Count Kalucky, speaking in the Hungarian Delegation

also said that the causes which were endangering European peace remain unremoved. Empress Victoria, whose influence always furthered the late Emperor Frederick's peaceable desires, will continue to exercise that benign influence on her Imperial son, it is to be hoped, so that Europe may not once more be plunged into a disastrous war. To our mourning Queen-Empress and her bereaved daughter we venture to offer our sincere condolence.

THE CALCUTTA POLICE AND THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE.

THE Hon'ble Justice Wilson has disallowed Mr. Woodroffe's application on behalf of Nil Madhub Mitra to appeal to the Privy Council against the sentence of transportation for life passed on him. The admissibility of the confession of the accused to the Hon'ble Kally Nath Mitra decided on by the Full Bench is, Mr. Woodroffe contended, wrong in law and opens out a precedent truly dangerous to the liberties of the people of Calcutta. We, therefore, much regret Justice Wilson's decision in disallowing the appeal, and trust that the Privy Council will be moved to set aside this order. Very important points of law are at issue and the question of the admissibility ought to have the fullest possible consideration as a test question and should not be left open on any account. If Nilmadhub be guilty of the terrible crime that has been laid to his charge, as the Judge and a majority of the Jury have agreed in holding after a patient and protracted trial, no punishment that the law can inflict can be too high for him and any leniency shown to the parricide would be but putting a premium on such misdeeds. The feeling of the Hindu community is unanimous on the point and there cannot be any sympathy with the prioner in a case like this. We object however on principle to the brutal punishment that is provided as the extreme penalty of the law, and when the evidence has been conflicting and dubious points of law of great importance have arisen, Justice Wilson has acted rightly in giving the accused the benefit of doubt and sparing his life. If however the law allows a final appeal to Her Majesty in Council when grave legal points are at issue, it is not right to disallow such an appeal and leave the question of law open for ever to doubt.

In his arguments before the Reference Bench the learned Standing Counsel contended on behalf of the Crown, and the Bench gave effect to the learned Counsel's arguments by deciding, that Chapter XIV of the Code of Criminal Procedure, which dealt with information to the police and their power to investigate, did not, with the exception of section 155, apply to the Presidency town, and accordingly sections 164 and 364 of the Code had no application to the circumstances of the case. This decision of the Full bench is of extreme importance, not so far as the case of Nil Madhub Mitra alone is concerned, but it has raised questions of great public and general interest, such as are likely to occur frequently in the future inasmuch as it leaves the powers of the police in Calcutta, in regard to the taking of confessions, absolutely without any statutory control,—a state of things, which was clearly never contemplated by the Legislature, and which, if permitted to continue, might seriously interrupt the due and orderly administration of the law. Section 1 of the Criminal Procedure Code, on which the learned Counsel's contention and the decision of the Court were mainly based, favours this view of the case. It says in clause (a) that nothing contained in the Code shall apply to the Commissioners of Police in the Town of Calcutta, Madras or Bombay, or the Police in the Town of Calcutta or Bombay. We have on the other hand no express enactments by which these provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code or provisions similar to them have been made applicable to the Police of Calcutta. The special and local laws bearing on the subject are absolutely without any safeguards of the nature provided for in the Code; and if the interpretation of the Section as decided by the Full Bench be the correct one, the liberties of the inhabitants

of the Presidency Towns will be more jeopardised than those of the Mofussil, where the Code has the fullest application. Under these circumstances it is necessary in public interest to obtain an authoritative interpretation of the law from Her Majesty's Privy Council, and, if necessary, on such interpretation, to obtain a change in the law.

This interpretation, however, may not after all be the right one. Mr. Woodroffe in moving Mr. Justice Wilson for leave to appeal, pointed out that in the statement of the Objects and Reasons appended to the Bill, which subsequently was passed into law, as the Criminal Procedure Code, Act X of 1882, the following passage occurred:

"No less than three Codes of Criminal Procedure are now in operation in British India: Act X of 1872 amended by Act XI of 1874, which is in force in the Mufussal; the High Court Act, X of 1875, which is in force in the Presidency towns, Allahabad and Lahore, and the Presidency Magistrate's Act (IV of 1877), also in force in Presidency Towns. Many of the provisions of these Codes merely repeat one another. Many of their rules, though dealing with the same subject, unnecessarily vary in language, and the result is that the bulk of the Indian statute book is far greater than need be, and that the Courts when construing one Act are often deprived of the guidance of prior decisions on another. The primary object of this Bill, which has been framed at the suggestion of the Secretary of State, is to recast the Code of 1872, combining with it the substance of the High Court's Act and the Presidency Magistrate's Act, and incorporating in it the numerous reported decisions in its wordings, and thus at last to give to India a single and complete Code of Criminal Procedures, and carry out, so far, the policy of providing a simple and uniform system of law for this country. The language and arrangement of Act X of 1872 have for various reasons been departed from only so far as is necessary for the main purpose of the Bill."

If this is so, it is difficult to see how the legislature could have deliberately contemplated that the capital of British India should be excluded from the operations of this "simple and uniform system of law" and the liberties of its inhabitants should have been left to the sweet will and mercy of the Police. But this was clearly not the intention of the legislature, as may be gathered also from the proceedings of the Council held on the 25th of February 1881, when the Hon'ble Mr. Stokes moved for leave to introduce a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to Criminal Procedure.

He said that notwithstanding the partial consolidation effected in 1872, the Criminal Procedure of British India was now contained in seventeen Regulations and Acts comprising over 1,050 sections, and in the numerous and sometimes conflicting reported decisions of the four High Courts and the Chief Court of the Punjab. Of these Acts the chief were the three Codes; Act X of 1872, amended by Act XI of 1874 in force in the Mufussal; Act X of 1875 in force in the Presidency High Court and Act IV of 1877 in force in the Presidency Magistrate's Court. In his despatch dated 26th October 1876, the then Secretary of State for India, referring to the Presidency Magistrate's Bill (now Act IV of 1877) and its variations, both in arrangement and phraseology, from the Code of Criminal Procedure, proceeded as follows:

"This appears to me a wide departure from the settled policy of providing a simple and uniform system of law for India. The draft Code of Criminal Procedure prepared by the Indian Law Commissioners in 1856 was intended by them for use in all the Courts, and although it was not deemed advisable to carry out the whole of this design when the Code of Criminal Procedure was enacted in 1861 for the Mufussal only, I think that the circumstances are now more favourable to its completion. In the preparation of the High Court Criminal Procedure Act 1875 and of the present Bill, the whole of the Code of Criminal Procedure has been carefully reviewed and freely amended, and it seems desirable that the Mufussal districts should not continue under a less perfect law than the Presidency towns, but that they should enjoy the benefit of the latest convictions and improvements; and that whatever rules are intended to be observed by all the Courts alike should be placed before all in the same language, care being taken at the same time to define the special duties and procedure of each. This is the best safeguard against conflicting rulings. I request therefore, that your Excellency in Council will direct your attention to the question whether the Criminal Procedure Code of 1872 might not now be recast so as to combine with it the substance of the High Courts Act 1875, and of the present measure, and thus at length to give to India a complete Code of Criminal Procedure."

In the original draft Bill as set out in the Gazette of the 5th April 1879, section 162 corresponded with section 164 of the present Code of Criminal Procedure and in the margin of the Bill opposite to section 162 reference was made to section 16 of Act IV of 1877, the Presidency Magistrate's Act indicating, that section 162 was intended to adopt and consolidate the provisions contained in section 16 of the Presidency Magistrate's Act, and as section 162 corresponded with section 164 of the present Code to make section 164 adopt and consolidate the provisions of the Presidency Magistrate's Act, thus intending to make section 164 applicable to the Presidency town. Section 16 of Act IV of 1877 (which with the exception of one section has now been repealed) ran as follows: "A Presidency Magistrate may record any confession or other statement made to him, at any place within the limits of his jurisdiction by any person with reference to an offence; such confession shall be recorded in the manner provided by section 84, and such statement shall be recorded in the manner provided in section 115 clauses 3, 4, and 5, and such statements and confessions shall when recorded be forwarded to the Magistrate by whom it is enquired into or tried. No Presidency Magistrate shall record such confession, unless upon enquiry he has reason to believe that it was made voluntarily; and on recording any

such confession he shall make a memorandum at the foot thereof to the following effect, viz., I believe that the confession was voluntarily made, it was read over to the person making it, and was admitted by him to be correct."

Under these circumstances it seems that Full Bench did not interpret the law a right in holding that the section in question of the Code does not apply to the Town of Calcutta. An authoritative expression of opinion by the Privy Council is much needed in public interest, and we trust that an appeal will be made to the Council against Justice Wilson's order. In refusing to entertain Mr. Woodroffe's application the learned Judge observed that "the principles upon which Courts could act in such matters were fully considered in the Bombay High Court in the case of the Queen vs. Pestonji Dinshaw, reported in 10, Bombay High Court Reports, page 75 I fully accept the explanation of law given in that case by Chief Justice Westropp in his judgment, and I think, accepting this, that I should go quite outside them and far beyond any of the authorities in any High Court in this country, or decision of her Majesty in Council, if I were to make the order now asked for." The explanation which would hold good in ordinary cases do not apply, we submit, to cases of extreme importance like the one in question.

THE NEW ROAD.

Mr. Cotton's project for the Central Road from the Howrah Bridge to Sealdah, approved as it was by a majority of the Municipal Commissioners for Calcutta, has made no advance. The delay, Mr. Cotton in a recent note on the subject says, arises from the necessity of providing sufficient funds from the Municipal income to meet the interest on the loans which must be raised to meet the initial outlay on the undertaking. It is not possible to raise sufficient funds for the current year without raising the house-rate by, at least, half per cent. This, we are glad to learn, Mr. Cotton and his friends are unwilling to recommend. It was, therefore, proposed by the Chairman of the Corporation, that an application should be made to Government to transfer the surplus cash balance at the credit of the Howrah Bridge account to the Calcutta Municipality, as a grant-in-aid towards the construction of the proposed road. This recommendation was considered by a Committee appointed by Government consisting of the Chairman of the Howrah Bridge Commissioners, of the President of the Chamber of Commerce, of the Master of the Trades Association, of the Chairman of the Howrah Municipality, of the Deputy Comptroller-General, and of the Financial Secretary to the Government of Bengal, who all supported the proposal of Sir Henry Harrison, excepting the Agent of the East Indian Railway. The recommendation was supported by the Government of Bengal, and a draft bill was introduced into Council by which the necessary powers for sanctioning the transfer of the surplus were conferred on Government. But the Government of India has refused its assent to the proposal. A representation has however been made by the Bridge Commissioners to the Government of India, in which that Government "is requested to reconsider the decision under which it has been ordered that this sum of two lakhs shall not be made over to the Municipality, but shall be retained by the (Bridge) Commissioners as an addition to their reserve." Mr. Cotton has asked the Municipal Commissioners also to move the Government with the same prayer and they will do so. The Calcutta Chamber of Commerce also has supported it. Mr. Cotton points out that the necessity for improvements of the nature of the proposed road is largely attributable to the supineness and inaction of Government in past years,—in days long antecedent to the constitution of a Municipality for the town, when the construction of houses was permitted regardless of their situation or size, and streets were allowed to shape themselves in utter defiance of the first principles of sanitation. "The congested condition of the buildings and thoroughfares in the heart of Calcutta, which it is the principal object of the proposed road to rectify, would never have existed, if the responsible Government of the time had not neglected its duties. This is more particularly the case in regard to what may be called the business portion of the city, the riparian wards which are

well-known as the hot-bed of cholera and disease, through which the new road (which ought to have been laid out a century ago) will run, and at last, late though it may be, bring light, air and cleanliness to the suffering residents." Our Anglo-Indian friends fell foul with such Municipal Commissioners and members of the Native Press as had the temerity to object to—not the scheme itself, for it is felt and conceded to be beneficial all round, but—the iniquitous proposal to turn people away from their homesteads and sell them off for defraying the cost of the road. They have nothing now to say, however, to the refusal of the Government to advance this paltry two lakhs of rupees, although according to Mr. Cotton's Note it is solely and primarily responsible, by reason of its long neglect, for the wretched insanitary condition of the portion of the town through which the road is to pass.

SIR LEPEL GRIFFIN'S PROTEST.

Sir Lepel Griffin does not seem to have been satisfied with the certificate which the Government of India so generously gave him in reference to his doings in Bhopal. The refusal of the Foreign Office to comply with his request to criminally prosecute the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* and other news-papers, which had brought serious charges against him in connection with his high-handed and arbitrary proceedings in Bhopal, was a grievous disappointment to him. When the decision of the Governor-General in Council was communicated to him in January last he felt it his duty to energetically protest against it "on grounds of law, equity and policy." The protest is a characteristic document and quite worthy of its author. The Government of India having held that it is neither necessary nor expedient to publish the correspondence relating to Bhopal affairs or to institute a criminal prosecution against the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, Sir Lepel Griffin asks "that such steps may be taken as may clear my honor from attacks made upon me." It is really very strange that a strong man like Sir Lepel should have made such a request when he does not hesitate to write in this strain: "I have before said that I care little for hostile criticism, and I readily allow that the abuse of the seditious and bought Press of Bengal is the best proof of the rectitude of the person they attack, as their praise is in the eyes of honest men, the just condemnation of him who deserves it." If so, we are at a loss to understand why Sir Lepel Griffin should be so very anxious to clear himself from the charges brought against him by the seditious and bought Press.

In order to strengthen his case, Sir Lepel Griffin asks the Government of India to consider the analogy which Ireland furnishes. He points out that the Members of the English Government attacked by the Nationalistic Press, whether Mr. Gladstone, or Sir George Trevelyn, or Mr. Balfour have and freely exercise the right of private defence in the Press and on the public platform, while the Ministry defends and supports them energetically. Sir Lepel then goes on to say:—"If we turn to India, a very different spectacle is presented. The only persons to whom full liberty or rather license is allowed are the hired bravoos of the Press, and officials whose services entitled them to honour are condemned to a silence which is misunderstood while exposed defenceless, to all ignoble abuse. The Government, when appealed to for protection, declines to enforce its own law, which is daily defied, which it is bound by every consideration of right and self-preservation to uphold, and the solemn maintenance of which is the chief reason for the existence of all civilized Governments. I take my stand on the law of the land, and I ask that it may be enforced. A single malicious libel it may be convenient for the Government to ignore or refuse to prosecute, but those of which I write may be counted by hundreds, and I doubt whether a number of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* has been issued for months on which criminal proceedings might not be successfully instituted." Of course, in a country like India which does not enjoy the blessings of representative Government, officials have not the same opportunities of defending themselves

from attacks made upon them as exist in the United Kingdom. But if the Indian bureaucrat is sincerely anxious to have opportunities for the free exercise of the right of private defence, his wishes can be easily met. We have over and over again insisted in these columns that a reform of the present constitution of the Legislative Councils of India has become absolutely necessary, and we have often indicated in what direction this reform should be effected. The Indian Councils Act should be amended and the privileges given to non-official members extended. The members of our Legislative Councils do not at present possess the right of interpellation—the right of questioning the acts of the executive Government, and of demanding information and explanations regarding measures vitally affecting the welfare of the country. If the Government concede this privilege to the members of the Legislative Councils, our rulers will have ample opportunities of publicly vindicating their acts and measures. We earnestly hope that Sir Lepel Griffin, who undoubtedly possesses great influence with Lord Hartington and other unionist leaders, will utilize his present visit to England in procuring the right of interpellation for members of the Legislative Councils in India. By such an act Sir Lepel will surely earn the lasting gratitude of the people of this country. But the truth is, that the Indian bureaucrat does not seek for opportunities for explaining his measures or acts. He merely wants that the Native Press be gagged and thereby incapacitated from making attacks upon him. The freedom of the Native Press is a positive eye-sore to the Anglo-Indian Official. He would, if he could, immediately make the liberty of the Native Press a thing of the past. The British public however will not allow any such retrograde measure as is proved by the fate of Lord Lytton's gagging Act. His wisest course would therefore be to do all that lies in his power to procure a reform of the constitution of our Legislative Councils in the direction above indicated.

In his protest under notice Sir Lepel Griffin makes an attempt to show that by suppressing Nawab Sadik Hossein, he has conferred incalculable benefits upon the people of Bhopal. We shall not discuss here how far the position taken up by Sir Lepel is tenable. It may be that Sadik Hossein was guilty of numerous acts of oppression; but that does not prove that the specific charges which the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* has preferred against Sir Lepel Griffin are unfounded. If Sir Lepel is sincerely anxious to clear his honor from the attacks made upon him, he can easily do so by bringing Civil action for damages against the *Patrika*. He need not obtain the sanction of Government for instituting a civil suit. We should very much like to see him in the witness-box subjected to a mercilessly severe cross-examination in regard to his private interviews with the Begum's daughter and heiress, which created such a grave scandal in Her Highness's capital and similar other matters. Sir Lepel need not ask the Government of India to take steps to clear his honour from attacks made upon him: the remedy is in his own hands.

LOCAL OPTION IN BENGAL.

ANY one of our readers who is fifty or sixty years old, and has lived in the Mofussil, must remember with what extreme difficulty "country spirits," as they are called, could be obtained in the villages in the olden days. In large villages only could now and then be found a wretched hut, resorted to by the lowest classes of the people, in which was sold, not the present luxurious and refined liquor, but a miserable stuff called *dhaneshwari*, a gallon or two of which it was necessary to consume before the bliss of intoxication could be attained. In those days if any person in a village wished to get drunk he could not do so, simply because the means were not within his reach, and what is not easily attainable is seldom desired. Hence forty or fifty years ago there was naturally very little drunkenness in the country; and the simple reason was that it was not easy to get drunk in those days as the country spirits were not easily available. But all that is changed now. Thanks to the Bengal Government, it is now easy to get drunk.

to draw prominent attention to the fact that the scarcity of water in Burra Bazar and the other riparian wards was one of the most potent causes of the prevalence of cholera in those wards. As to the form of expression objected to, in which the conservancy of the native portion of the town is likened to what might be expected in an African village, as well as that which refers to the four doctors being sent to a community after it had been allowed to be poisoned, I confess the similes seemed to me to be very appropriate. They are the language of metaphor, but not of hyperbole, and they certainly do not exaggerate the real state of affairs. If, in referring to the present prevalence of cholera in Calcutta, and to the conditions which at present exist and have existed for years past which favour that prevalence, the expressions used by me have given offence, I can only assure the Commissioners that it was far from my intention to do so. I am quite willing to remodel the sentences so long as the same facts are clearly presented namely—(1.) That in the worst cholera-affected districts in the native portion of the town the water-supply is scanty; that it has been so for years; that there has been no marked or constant improvement within the last two years; that apparently the present supply in those districts is no better than what it was in 1884 and worse than what it was in the earlier periods of the water-supply. (2.) That the conservancy arrangements are totally inadequate, and are such as no other civilised community would tolerate. (3.) That daily inspection and systematic removal of nuisance throughout the year by the agency of competent sanitary inspectors would be more effective in saving life, and more in consonance with the duty of a sanitary authority, than the employment of four doctors for two months to treat cholera cases, and the inspection of premises therewith." The Commissioners have expressed themselves satisfied with the explanation.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS GREAT VALUE AS A NUTRIENT FOR WEAKLY CHILDREN.—In cases of languid and imperfect nutrition often observed in children, the surprising efficacy of Dr. de Jongh's Oil is thus described by Dr. Edward Carey: "It is in the diseases incidental to childhood, that mainly depend on the malassimilation of the food in the pale cachectic child, when the anxious practitioner has exhausted the whole range of alteratives and tonics, that Dr. de Jongh's Cod Liver Oil will come in and satisfy his most sanguine expectations. Where the powers of life are low, it affords nourishment to the body when none other can be borne it furnishes the frame with fat in a truly wonderful manner; and administered as it is in Holland, to the delicate and puny child, who though not considered ill, is in that state of impaired health which would favour the development of disease, its extraordinary effects will soon be visible, after having taken it for a short period, in a return to health and strength which were before unknown, and which will be accomplished by no other remedy with which we are acquainted. Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees, on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists and storekeepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co, 210, High Holborn, London.

A MEMORIAL ON THE OUTSTILL SYSTEM

To

LORD CROSS,

Secretary of State for India.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP.

Your memorialists being members of a body of loyal subjects to the State, and formed into a social fraternity for the purpose of mutual benefit and the well-being of our people at large, very respectfully solicit the careful consideration of the Imperial Government to a question which deeply concerns the social and moral destiny of our country.

2. This question is the *present Excise system of the Bengal Government*, in the article of "Country Spirits," the use of which has of late years been increasing at an alarming rate among the people of the land.

3. Your memorialists deem it both expedient and necessary that all articles of a noxious character, both drinks and drugs, should be under due control and restriction and liable to taxation by Government. They also fully approve of the principle upon which the Government professes to act in this matter, namely, "the maximum of revenue from the minimum of consumption." The question is, how best to attain to the practice of this sound principle.

4. After a careful consideration of the various plans of Excise adopted at different periods, your memorialists have come to the conclusion, (1) that of all the plans that have been tried the one now so generally in vogue viz. the *Outstill* system, is by far the most pernicious in its results, and (2) that

the old system of *Government* distilleries, known in India as the "*Sudder*" system is, when duly supervised, the best adapted to the wants of the people and the well-being of the country. Of the recent rapid spread of drinking and the consequent demoralization of a large number of our people, (more or less from all classes) your memorialists have the most painful personal evidence which is only too well known to those who live among their own people. The poverty, misery and demoralization of masses of the people have kept pace most painfully with the large increase of revenue derived from year to year from the sale of the article of "native spirits" in Bengal since the reintroduction of the baneful "*Outstill*" systems some years ago. So fully convinced was His Honor the late Lieutenant Governor of Bengal of the evil results of this system that after the careful examination of the Excise Commission His Honor nobly resolved, at the risk of a reduction in the Excise revenue, to abolish a great number of the Outstills in the larger towns and cities in Bengal which action shortly after resulted in a considerable diminution of drunkenness as well as in a reduction of revenue from "Country Spirits."

5. Your memorialists deeply regret to state that the above mentioned wise concession has been seriously neutralized by the opening of new "Outstills" in lower Bengal and that in direct opposition to strong protests from the leading inhabitants of the towns and villages where this was done. The consequence is, that quiet rural hamlets, where prosperity and sobriety were enjoyed before, are now the scenes of constant debauchery and destitution. Your memorialists have already witnessed such a frightful crop of social and moral evils from the facility now afforded the masses of the people to indulge in cheap and noxious "Country Spirits" that they cannot but look forward with a shuddering dread at the awful consequences that must follow if the present "Outstill" system of excise is not speedily abolished.

6. Your memorialists do therefore sincerely pray that the Imperial Government would adopt such measures as would restore to India the old system of "Sudder" distilleries, to the complete and entire abolition of the Outstill system. And further, they very earnestly pray, that license should not be given to any person to open a shop for the sale of strong drinks or noxious drugs without the approval of the majority of the people among whom such shops shall be opened.

7. Your memorialists would especially call attention to the fact that (whether justly or not) the responsibility of the present fearful progress of drunkenness in Bengal is laid by the people at the door of the Government, which by its present system of excise has afforded facilities to all classes to drink to such a degree that it is nothing less than a temptation to indulgence in a vice which, when once established will be morally impossible to eradicate. Your memorialists are aware that this is a very serious charge to make against any Government and especially so against one which professes to be guided by the principles and precepts of One who is said to have come into the world (as we read) to "seek and to save the lost."

8. Your memorialists being themselves eye-witnesses of the evils they complain of do not deem it necessary to multiply evidences or supply statistics in proof of the baleful grievances to which they solicit your Lordship's attention, though such evidences and statistics are available in abundance. But they respectfully solicit that the Supreme Government will be pleased to order an immediate enquiry, and that measures be taken to check this great evil as well as to wipe away the dark blot which the present system of Excise in "Country Spirits" in India, casts upon a Christian Government.

And your memorialists as in duty bound will ever pray.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

We have to acknowledge with thanks the following books and pamphlets:

1. Resolution on the Revenue Administration of the Central Provinces for 1886-87.
2. Statistical Tables for British India, 1888. (Twelfth issue)
3. Report on Public Instruction Punjab, 1886-87.
4. Prices and Wages in India, 1888. (Sixth issue)
5. Statement of the Trade of British India with British Possessions and Foreign Countries for five years 1882-83 to 1886-87. (Blue Book)
6. Central Asia, No. 1 (1888.) Further correspondence respecting the Affairs of Central Asia. (Blue Book)
7. Ditto No. 2. (1887)
8. *Sahitya Prasoon* collected and published by Nrisingham Mukerjee.
9. Trade and Navigation Accounts of British India for March 1888.
10. The Fifty-Sixth Annual Report of the District Charitable Society. 1888.
11. North-Western Province and Oudh Branch of the Countess of Dufferin's Fund.—Report of Public Meeting held at Lucknow on 4th April 1888.
12. *Bharati* a Bengali monthly journal Vol. XI. No. 1 by Sarna Kumari Devi.
13. *Tattabodhini Patrika* No. 533 by Dijendra Nath Tagore.
14. The National Magazine Vol. II. No. 11, February 1888.
15. Cook's Universal Tourist Budget Vol. IV. No. 44 April, 1888.
16. Calendar of Mail Steamer Departures from Bombay, and collection of Time Tables and other information relating to the principal Steamer Mail Services between India and other places, for 1888.
17. The Stationery Trades Journal Vol. IX. No. 97. March 1888.
18. *Bakhangkora* a Sanskrit Book for the candidates of Entrance Examination by Chandra Mohun Sarma.
19. *Coolikahini*—Sketches from Cooly Life (in Bengali) published by G. C. Home.
20. Proceedings of the Asiatic Society of Bengal No. III. March, 1888.
21. Administration Report N. W. P. and Oudh for 1886-87.
22. Selections from the Records of the Government of India Foreign Department No. CCXLL.—Report of the Political Administration of the Territories with the Central India Agency for 1886-87.

Government Notifications.

Calcutta Gazette.—June 13, 1888.

GENERAL.—Mr. Syud Sakhawat Hosan, Manager of the Kanika Wards Estate in Cuttack, is allowed leave of absence, on half pay, for two months and nine days, with effect from the 7th April 1888.

Mr. W. C. Muller, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Chittagong, is allowed furlough for one year, under section 132, of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 4th July next.

Babu Kedar Nath Dutt, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Cuttack, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870, in the Districts of Cuttack and Balasore.

Mr. H. Savage, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Backergunge, is allowed leave for three months, under section 72 of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 6th July or subsequent date on which he may be relieved.

Mr. C. Owen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector Arracah, Purneah, is vested with the powers of Collector under Act X of 1870, in that District.

Babu Surjo Kumar Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Kissenungunge, Purneah, is vested, with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870, in that District.

Mr. W. H. Grimley, C. S. has been granted by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India an extension of furlough for four months and a half.

The order of the 8th ultimo, published in the Calcutta Gazette of the 9th idem, transferring Babu Kally Sunker Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Tipperah, to Bogra, is cancelled.

Babu Bepin Behary Mukerji, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bhauulpore, is transferred to Hughly, and is appointed to have charge of the Jehanabad Sub-Division of that District.

Babu Purno Chunder Mitter, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jehanabad Hughly, is transferred to Bhauulpore, and is posted to the sudder station of that District.

Babu Nityanund Bhur, Temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rajshaye, on leave, is transferred to Burdwan, and is posted to the station of that District.

Babu Radhika Lal Shome, Sub-Deputy Collector Dinagore, on leave, is transferred to Bankura, and is posted to Bishenpore in that district.

Babu Sarut Chunder Bose, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector, Midnapore, is transferred to Dinagore, and is posted to the sudder station of that District.

Babu Mohini Mohun Chuckerbutty, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jessore, is transferred to Noakholly, and is posted to the sudder station of that District.

Babu Radha Shyam Singh, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to the sudder station of the District of Jossore.

Babu Umesh Chunder Batabyal, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Manbhum, is appointed to be an Assistant Magistrate and Collector and will remain posted to the district of Manbhum.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT. Babu Shudhungsu Bhusan Roy, Temporary Additional Munsiff of Saseeran, Shahbad, is appointed to act temporarily as an Additional Munsiff in the District of Murshidbad, to be ordinarily stationed at Berhampore. He is however, appointed to act as Additional Munsiff of Buxar in the District of Shahbad, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Tej Chunder Mukerji, or until further orders, with effect from the date on which he joined his appointment.

Babu Hari Prosunno Mukerji is appointed to act as an Additional Munsiff in the district of Murshidbad, to be ordinarily stationed at Berhampore, during the absence, on deputation of Babu Shudhungsu Bhusan Roy, or until further orders.

The Lieutenant-Governor accepts the resignation tendered by Sheik Yusuf Hossein Khan of his appointment as an Honorary Magistrate of the Jhangunge Bench, in the District of Patna.

With reference to the order, dated the 7th May 1888, appointing Babu Suchi Sekhur Mukerji to be an Honorary Magistrate of the Bishenpore Bench for "Suchi Sekhur Mukerji read "Sashi Sekhur Mukerji."

The following gentlemen are appointed to be Honorary Magistrates of the Jessore Bench, and are vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class:—

Babu Dharrani Dhur Haldar, Mouli Abdul Fazal Molambaks, Babu Taruk Nath Roy, Gopal Chunder Chowdhry, and Babu Durgadas Chatterji.

Under the authority vested in him by the final clause of section 357 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, Act X of 1882, the Lieutenant-Governor empowers Babu Nobo Kumar Chuckerbutty, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector of Bhauulpore, to take down evidence in criminal case in the English language.

The Lieutenant-Governor accepts the resignation tendered by Mr. E. M. George of his appointment of Honorary Magistrate of the Assensole Bench, in the District of Burdwan.

The orders of the 3rd ultimo, appointing Babu Hur Chunder Das, First Munsiff of Sudharam, in the District of Noakholly, to be a Munsiff of Hatiya, in that District, and appointing Babu Annoda Churn Sen, Officiating Additional Munsiff of Begumunge, to act as Munsiff of Sudharam, are cancelled.

Babu Aswini Kumar Bose, Fourth Munsiff of Burisaul, in the District of Backergunge, is appointed to be a Munsiff in the District of Noakholly, to be ordinarily stationed at Hatiya.

Baboo Hariah Chunder Sen, Munsiff of Brahmunberiah, Tipperah, on deputation as Additional Munsiff of Amta, in the District of Hughly, on leave, is appointed a Munsiff in the District of Backergunge to be ordinarily stationed at Burisaul.

Babu Purna Chunder Singh is appointed to be an Honorary Magistrate for the Head-Quarters Bench of the District of Maldah, and his vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

Babu Umesh Chunder Batabyal, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Manbhum, will continue to exercise the powers of a Magistrate of the first class and those under sections 110 and 260 of the Code of the Criminal Procedure.

Grant of Leave to Munsiffs.—Babu Protab Chunder Mozumdar, First Munsiff of Nelphamari, in the District of Rungpore, is allowed leave for fifteen days, under section 73, rule 1, chapter V of the Civil Leave code, in extension of the leave granted to him on the 3rd ultimo.

Advertisements.

NOTICE.

Required the services of a qualified temporary Sub-Overseer for about 6 months. Salary Rs. 40 per month and horse allowance Rs. 15. Experience in road construction is necessary. Apply before 21st instant to

J. ROBINSON, C. E.
District Engineer's Office } District Engineer,
the 13th June 1888. } Bhagulpore.

NOTIFICATION.

To be peremptorily sold by the Registrar of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal in its Ordinary Original Civil Jurisdiction on the 14th of July next at the hour of 12 o'clock at noon pursuant to a decree dated 24th April 1884 and an order of the said Court dated 25th May 1886 respectively made in suit No. 108 of 1884 (wherein Doorgaprosno Ghose was plaintiff and Shurruth Coomar Dutt was defendant) the following properties belonging to the estate of Shurruth Coomar Dutt deceased, the husband of the said defendant Sreemutty Kherode Coomary Dassee.

1st. All that undivided one fourth part or share of and in the land and premises No. 31 Lower Chitpore Road Fouzdaree Ballakhana in the Town of Calcutta containing by estimation one Bigah and nineteen cottahs and bounded on the West by Chitpore Road on the North by Collootollah Street on the East partly by Hurrinbaree Lane and partly by Hackney Carriage Stand and on the South partly by a Municipal Bathing platform and Municipal Latrines partly by the property of Harraund Shaw and partly by the property of Hajee Baba Catharine.

2nd. All that undivided $\frac{13}{2160}$ two thousand one hundred and sixtieth parts or shares of Shurruth Coomar Dutt of and in the dwelling house with the land appertaining thereto containing by estimation four Bigas four cottahs and five chittacks more or less situate at and being numbered 78 Nimtollah Ghat Street in the town of Calcutta and batted and bounded on the North partly by Romjan Ostags Lane and partly by land with garden No. 3 Romjan Ostags Lane, on the South partly by Nimtollah Ghat Street and partly by Issur Chunder Sircar's dwelling house, on the east partly by a Government drain and partly by the dwelling house of Nundo Lal Soor, Gobin Chunder Gooya, Kassinauth Bysack Nittanund Dey, Bolly Chand Bysack, Nobin Chander Ghose and Dwarkanath Dey, and on the West partly by the dwelling house of the late Issur Chander Sircar and partly by the tenanted land of Shaik Syga Ally and Shaik Mohamed Ally.

3rd. All that undivided $\frac{13}{2160}$ two thousand one hundred and sixtieth parts or shares of and in all that piece or parcel of land or ground containing by estimation Two Bigas two cottahs and two chittacks more or less situate at and being number 3 formerly numbered 2 Ramjan Ostags Lane in Calcutta and batted and bounded on the North partly by the house of Manick Bose partly by the lands of Shib Chander Bose, Bisso Nath Dutt and Kassinauth Dutt On the east partly by the house of Gobind Chand Dutt partly by the house of Gocool Money Dabee and partly by the house No. 78 Nimtollah Ghat Street, on the south by the land House and premises No. 78 Nimtollah Ghat Street and on the West partly by the house of Ramjan Ostagor and partly by Ramjan Ostagor's Lane.

4th. All that undivided property or half part or share of and in the upper roomed House together with the piece or parcel of land or ground or part whereof the same is erected and built containing by estimation about ten cottahs more or less situate at and being No. 11 Nimtollah Ghat Street in Calcutta (subject to the right and interest of Sreemutty Kristo Bhabiny Dassee the mother of the said Surrath Chander Dutt on partition) and bounded on the North partly by the house of Greesh Chander Bose and partly by the Ryoty land of Chander Mookerjee, on the East partly by the land of Gopal Chander Sircar and partly by the house of Kally Kristo Dutt, on the West by the land of the plaintiff, and on the south partly by the land of the plaintiff partly by Auckrabaree and partly by the land of Ramnidi Mookerjee.

All that undivided one sixtieth part or share of and in the following zemindaries and land :

5th. Pergunnah Sultanpore Khassrah in the Districts of Khoorna, Backergange and Furreedpore being No. 171 in the Touzie of the Collector of Khoorna containing 43 Mouzahs with Jalkar, Bankur, Falkur and other rights, the Government revenue of the said Touzie No. 171 is Rupees 3683-8-0 a year besides cesses.

6th. All that Zemindary Belpoolia and Khorah in Zillah Khoorna being No. 172 in the Touzie of the Collector of Khoorna containing 38 mouzahs with Jalkur, Bankur, Falkur and other rights, the Government revenue of the said Touzie No. 172 is Rupees 801-0-6 a year besides cesses.

7. Kismut Talook Modhoodaya in the zillah of Khoorna being No. 576 in the Touzie of the Collector of Khoorna the Government revenue of which is Rupees 16-7 An. besides cesses.

8. Chittra Nuddee Chur or Mohul Ghose Gatty Chur in Zillah Khoorna being No. 382 of the Touzie of the Collector of Khoorna, the Government revenue of which is Rupees 62-12-0 a year, besides cesses.

9. Sowdaha Bundobustes Chur in Zillah Backergunge being No. 6314 in the Touzie of the Collector of Backergunge, the Government revenue of which is Rupees 459 a year besides cesses.

10. Talook Kismut Sunasoor in zillah Furreedpore being No. 2773 in the Touzie of the Collector of Furreedpore standing in the names of the Ram Nursingho Ghose and others, the revenue of which is Rupees 1-12-6 a year besides cesses.

11. Kismut Malnutha Talook being No. 2770 in the Touzie of the Collector of Furreedpore standing in the names of Kally Sanker Roy and others in Zillah Furreedpore, the Government revenue of which is Rupees 1-9-0 a year besides cesses.

12. Kismut Goprenauthpore Talook Nundoram-pore in Zillah Furreedpore being No. 2767 in the Touzie of the Collector of Furreedpore, the Government revenue of which is Rupee 1-11-9 a year besides cesses.

13. All that the purchased Mourasee land and Bausabatty in Mokam Kusba in zillah Jessore Sub-Registration District Bagarhat and Thanah Bagarhat the rent payable in respect of which is Rupees a year.

The abstract of title and conditions of sale may be seen at the Office of the Registration High Court Original Jurisdiction and at the Office of Messrs. Swinhoe and Chunder, Attorneys for the plaintiff, on any day before the sale and will be produced at the sale.

Swinhoe and Chunder Plaintiffs }
Attorneys, Calcutta High Court } Registrar.
Original Jurisdiction.
The 22nd March 1888.

THE LOWIS JUBILEE SANITARIUM, DARJEELING.

The above Sanitarium will be kept open every year from April 1st to November 15th, for the accommodation of all classes of Indian gentlemen except Eurasians. The charges inclusive of medical aid will be as follow :—

Classes.	Rooms with single bed.	Rooms with two or three beds.	Food.
	per diem. Rs.	per diem. Rs.	
A. ...	4 8 0	3 0 0	English Style.
B. ...	3 8 0	2 0 0	Orthodox Hindu Style.
C. ...	Several in one room.	According to Nationality.	
Servant...	Re. 1 0 0 per diem	As. 0 6 0 per diem	

The minimum charge for any class is for one week payable in advance, the day of admission and the day of discharge being counted as one day.

Application for admission should be made to Babu Trailokya Nath Chakravarti, Assistant Secretary. An applicant from a Station outside Darjeeling, wishing to secure accommodation from a specified date, shall have to advance with his application half the charges for the week, commencing from that date. In case he fails to occupy the room within three days from the specified date, he shall forfeit the amount of advance, and all claims for admission without a fresh application. If the applicant takes his admission within three days, the week in calculating charges will commence from the date, specified in his application.

The inmates will be supplied with bedsteads, mattresses, crockery (or Thalass Lotas &c.) and table cutlery, &c., &c., but not beddings, blankets, or bathing towels.

HARI MOHUN CHUNDRA,
Secretary, Managing Committee,
the Lowis Jubilee Sanitarium, Darjeeling.

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For fuller details see Directions which accompany each phial. Price Rs. 2 per phial; packing and postage extra. Sole Agents: Panjab Agency Co., Orders, should be addressed to MANAGER, PANJAB AGENCY CO. LAHORE, PANJAB.

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All who suffer find sure relief from



The Greatest Pain Cure Extant.

It has driven out from the system

Acute Rheumatism and Rheumatic Gout.

After years of semi-helplessness and suffering; while

in ASTHMA, BRONCHITIS, LUMBAGO, SCIATICA, FACEACHE, SPRAINS, it is the surest and safest remedy for these complaints in their severest and most chronic form.

Its magic effect in affording instantaneous relief in

Neuralgia in the Head, Face and Limbs.

Is almost too remarkable for CREDENCE.

Are you subject to HEADACHES and the tortures of TOOTHACHE? A single application will relieve you.

In Sore-throat its power has been so rapid and complete that it is universally recommended as

The Marvellous Sore Throat Cure.

Try this wonderful Medicine and let the result speak for itself.

The Oriental Balm is used by the best Physicians in the world in their practice. It has been pronounced a blessing in thousands of homes. By its intrinsic virtue, it has achieved a wide-spread popularity which no similar preparation has ever before attained.

Sold in Bottles at 1 Re. each.

Of all respectable chemists and of Smith Stanistreet and Company, Bahgate and Company, and R. Scott Thompson and Company Limited, Calcutta

You can now indulge in the luxury of intoxication without taking much trouble. You need not walk any great distance for it. The means are supplied at the door of every body. In every village of considerable size there is an outstill, which distils poison by the maund not only to the inhabitants of that village, but to those of smaller villages lying in its immediate vicinity, and thus the country is kept well inundated with the precious bane. If any village is not blessed with the possession of an outstill, a few of its inhabitants, the scum of its population, have only to make their wishes known to the authorities, and the desired boon will forthwith be granted.

The pernicious effects of this system of placing the means of getting drunk within the easy reach of the people, it is impossible to exaggerate. Drunkenness, especially in the villages, has increased to an alarming extent. Thousands of women in the villages are reduced to misery and beggary on account of the drunkenness of their husbands, who finding the gin-shop within easy reach, spend their day's wages on drink, keeping their wives and children at the brink of starvation. We have seen many families of the lower classes, who had once known plenty, who were comfortably clothed, and who could boast of brass vessels in their huts, but who have been reduced to absolute poverty and beggary since the fatal day when the outstill was opened in the village, the food diminishing in quantity as well as in quality, the clothes getting into tatters, and the brass vessels disappearing rapidly. This is no exaggerated picture. It may be witnessed any day in any village of Bengal. But that is not all. Drunkenness brings in its train all its attendant evils,—debilitation of the bodily and mental faculties, a hardening of the moral sense, and incapacitation for all work requiring continuous exertion; and the man who was once a useful member of society, a diligent artizan, a kind husband, and an affectionate father, becomes transformed, thanks to the outstill system, into a veritable brute. Who can tell the number of those myriads of Bengali peasants and artizans who have become thus degraded and demoralized by this pernicious system?

The advocates of the outstill system will ask, as to how the system is producing all this misery and demoralization. People are not forced to drink. If they get drunk and bring misery upon themselves, they alone are to blame. No doubt the peasant or the artizan is to blame for getting drunk, but the wretch who brings the pernicious article within his easy reach is also to be blamed. You can hardly expect an illiterate peasant to exercise self-control. He would be more than a peasant if he could exercise such self-restraint. Doubtless the peasant is to be blamed for ruining himself, but the man or system that helps him in effecting such ruin is an abettor of his crime and participates in his guilt. It will be urged that the abolition of the Outstill system and reverting to the old Sudder system, will reduce the revenue which Government is getting from the sale of country spirits. Suppose it does reduce the revenue to a certain extent, what of that? Which is the greater evil—reduction of the public revenue, or the demoralization of a whole people? For the sake of a few paltry Rupees, are thousands of families to be reduced to beggary, tens of thousands of persons degraded and brutalized and society in general demoralized? But there need not be any reduction in the public revenue. If the object to be realized be "the maximum of revenue with the minimum of consumption," the only way to attain it is to make the article more costly than it is at present, care being of course taken that the price be not raised so high as to make it absolutely prohibitive to the mass of the people. We think it quite feasible for Government to obtain the same revenue that it does at present by slightly increasing the price of country spirits, though the outstill system were abolished.

We not only wish the outstill system to be abolished, but we also want Government to introduce the system of Local Option, according to which no grog-shop can be set up in a village without the consent of the majority of its inhabitants or rate-payers. This system obtains in Europe and America, and we see no reason why it should not be introduced into India. It is in our opinion a very rational system. If the

majority of the inhabitants of a town or village wish for any particular establishment, it should be set up, otherwise not. It ought not to be left in the power of a few vicious persons panting for spirituous liquors, or of a publican greedy of gain, to demoralize a whole village; the respectable and sober portion of the population ought to have some voice in the matter. To suppose that the introduction of Local Option would do away with the bulk of the grog-shops in the country, would be to pay too high a compliment to the people. Though we think our countrymen to be on the whole more sober than most nations in the world, we assure Government that in the event of the introduction of Local Option, the majority of the grog-shops would remain, and the loss of revenue resulting from disallowing some of them by the people may be met by the increased price of the article. The advantages of Local Option are too obvious to be enlarged upon. It will preserve many towns and villages from demoralization. It will be a lesson in the art of self-government. It will impart to the people self-respect. It will make them the guardians of their morals, and thus raise them in their own estimation. And it will put down the vicious and rowdy part of the population and make them take their natural position in the community. At present the Government sets up grog-shops wherever it likes; the people therefore naturally lay at the door of the Government the blame of the drunkenness prevailing in the country. But if the principle of Local Option were adopted, the blame would be shifted from the shoulders of Government to those of the people and the Government would be blameless. It is therefore clearly the interest of Government to adopt the principle of Local Option.

We publish in another column a Memorial to the Secretary of State praying for the abolition of the out-still system and the restoration of the old system of sudder distilleries. It is in circulation in all parts of India for signature. The feeling of the country is so strong against the present system of excise that we have no doubt that the Memorial will be very largely signed. We hope that the combined and influential representation that will be now made to the Secretary State will have the effect of removing what we cannot help thinking to be a reproach upon the Government of the country.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES

THE transfer of the North-Western Railway to the Punjab Government is being considered.

It is stated from Simla that *Truth's* announcement that the Viceroy's departure will take place on the 17th August is incorrect. His Excellency leaves, it is said, in October, after a tour in Cashmere.

THE Secretary of State has sanctioned the amalgamation of the office of Director-General of Railways with the Public Works Secretariat, on condition that further reduction will be effected hereafter by greater decentralization.

THE Secretary of State is said to have approved of the abolition of the bazaar system for British regiments in India. We take it that this rule has application to the abolition of the C. D. Act.

THE death of General Sir Duncan Alexander Cameron, of Balaklava fame, is announced. He died at the good old age of 80 and served throughout the campaign of 1854-55, and commanded the 42nd Highlanders at the Alma, and the Highland Brigade at Balaklava, on the expedition to Kertch, at the siege and fall of Sebastopol, and at the assault of the outworks on the 18th of June. In 1863-65 he commanded the forces during the war in New Zealand.

THE opium revenue of India is going down with alarming steadiness and the deficit will be in-

creasing year after year and month after month. The revenue in Bengal in June was worse than the estimate by Rs. 1,36,100, the actual return being Rs. 48,13,400. There was, however, an improvement in Bombay of Rs. 2,23,400. Steps will at once be taken for reducing the stock in reserve and the sales will be larger, which will bring down the prices still lower. An Opium Conference was held at Calcutta the other day, the deliberations of which have not yet been made public.

OWING to the absence of both its President and Vice-President to Europe and for other reasons the Calcutta Health Society has abstained from holding its usual annual meeting and has published a lengthy and elaborate report, a considerable portion of which is taken up by the discussion of the Amalgamation question and the Calcutta Municipal Bill in general, from the Anglo-Indian point of view. The report also treats of the important questions of milk-supply, water-supply, Mahammedan burial-grounds, prevention of leprosy and so on.

THE Czar is sensible. His imperial Majesty has renounced the idea of visiting Central Asia, in order to avoid exciting the comment which the visit would provoke in England. Would that His Majesty's advisers were equally sensible and refrained from giving incessant cause for jealousy and adverse comments. Affairs in Central Asia are by no means settled yet.

THE inhabitants of Natra and several other villages in the Diamond Harbour Sub-Division have memorialised the Lieutenant-Governor against the proposed closing of the Natra Station on the Calcutta and South-Eastern Railway. The memorialists point out that the goods and passenger receipts justify the maintenance of the station and that its abolition will entail great hardship on the neighbourhood.

THE latest Sikkim-Thibet "bulletin" announces that Major Keith's guns and the Derbyshire detachment will be withdrawn from Gnatong to Darjiling at the close of the month if the Tibetans do not muster in force. Meantime the Pioneers will be taught to work the Mountain guns. This looks as if Government will not allow the complications grow thicker than they have done. But it is evident that it has not been able to make up its mind for forsaking the game, since the temptations for pursuit are many.

A CONTEMPORARY thinks it probable that the scheme for a railway between Ambala and Kalka, associated with the names of Messrs Duff Bruce, Robert Steel, and Yule and Co., will be accepted, by the Government of India. There is not the slightest objection to the acceptance of a scheme associated with so eminent names, if only the eminent names are not put forth for obtaining concessions from Government. The line, as we have always pointed out, will be of little public utility and is meant to strengthen the hill-Government system alone. Individual members of the Government may be much interested in advancing the scheme, but the Government as such has as no reason for supporting it out of public funds.

THERE is to be more fighting in Burma. An ultimatum has been sent by Major Raikes to the Chiefs of the Tashon Chins that unless the Siwaygyobin Prince and his followers and ex-Ministers who instigated the rebellion, and the leading Chins who recently raided the villages, are delivered within one month, a punitive expedition will be sent into the Tashon country with orders to punish the tribe with the utmost severity. It is hardly hoped that the Chiefs will comply with the demand, in which case a large expedition will have to be sent to the Tashon country next cold weather.

WE take the following intelligence from a contemporary :—

Although the destination of the Burmese *detenus* has been veiled in the deepest mystery, we understand that the prisoners will be taken on to join their friends at Ratnagiri. They arrived at Garden Reach on Friday evening on board the *Puttiala*, and on Saturday were transferred to the Port Commissioners' steamer *Buckland*, which took them down the river, and put them on board the *Himalaya*. On Sunday the British India Co.'s steamer left the Hughli, on her way to the Bombay side. The prisoners are the Queen Dowager of Burma, her eldest daughter, the Princess Soopyagye, and one of the Alompra Princes from Mergui, and they are accompanied by a large number of attendants. The ladies have lately been residing at Tavoy, and are suspected of having prompted the late disturbances in that neighbourhood.

Oh for the royalty that has fallen so low!

A SERIOUS charge of extortion of confession by torture has been laid against Inspector Boyd of the Park Street Thana and some of his subordinates. The case was unearthed by the exertions of Mr. Hyde, a well-known barrister of the High Court, and Mr. M. P. Gasper appeared for the prosecution. A Mahamedun lad in the service of Dr. Coulter was charged with theft and is said to have been brutally tortured by the Police. The Calcutta Police seem to be quite as good adepts in the art of torturing as their brethren in the Mafassil, with this difference that their offences are not always detected. The medical testimony of Drs. Raye, Joubert and Perry support the case for the prosecution and Mr. Lambert was present when the medical evidence was conducted. The boy's mother is in Mr. Hyde's service and fortunately reported the matter to Mrs. Hyde, which led to the discovery. The accused have all been committed to the Sessions.

THE heat in Calcutta within the last few days has been such as the oldest residents cannot recall to mind. Cases of apoplexy and sun-stroke have been numerous. The hospitals are crowded with patients suffering from the effects of excessive heat and some deaths also have resulted. It has been suggested that the Courts and public offices should be closed till the weather has cooled down a little, and we trust the suggestion will be given effect to considering that all work is impossible. The Municipality in the meanwhile is adding as much as it can to our sufferings by its capricious system of water-supply, though it is never without long, elaborate and meaningless explanations about its shortcomings in this regard.

WE are glad to learn that the Government of India has forwarded a copy of the letter of the Indian Association regarding the coolie question in Assam to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal and the Chief Commissioner in Assam, with a request that an enquiry may be made into the allegations therein made. If necessary, the Government of India is said to be fully prepared to appoint a Special Commission to investigate the working of the Assam coolie laws. An open independent Commission and sympathetic action on its report is all that is needed to root out the evil. It is possible that inaccuracies have crept in here and there into the facts and figures collected by the Association from purely un-official sources; but we submit that it would not take away in the least from the value of the representation.

ORDERS are published in the *Calcutta Gazette* that, in the protected and reserved forests under the Government of Bengal, no person is to be allowed, except in case of self-defence, to shoot or catch an elephant or to set any snares or traps. Further, that between the 1st of April and the 30th of September in each year, both days inclusive, the killing of the following animals and birds is prohibited:—deer and antelope, hare, pheasant, partridge hill and sand grouse, peafowl, florican, and jungle-fowl, also speer-fowl, all ducks that breed in the country, grey duck, cerub duck, pink-headed duck, large and small whistling teal, cotton teal, and gyal. The Government that is so very minutely careful about the preservation of game strangely and perversely enough refuses to appreciate the urgent necessity of preserving the race of cows.

WE are requested to publish the following letter from the Private Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja of Kuch Behar :—

"The attention of His Highness the Maharajah of Kuch Behar has been drawn to some articles published in the *"Mirror"* and more especially to one in the issue, dated the 16th of May 1888.

I am desired by His Highness to say that the statements in the articles under reference are unauthorised, inaccurate and groundless, and that His Highness has no intention of making any such changes in the State administration as the *Mirror* declares to have been practically determined upon."

THE Ware-house and Fire Brigade Act is working satisfactorily in the Suburbs. Last year there were 108 jute and cotton warehouses licensed in the Suburbs being five more than in the previous year, twelve hydraulic presses, six jute mills, and two cotton mills. All these latter being the same as in the previous year. The Asiatic Jute Mill, which was unoccupied during the previous year, was worked last year, but one of the two hand screws remained unoccupied, and of the hundred and eight jute warehouses, thirty-two remained unoccupied. The total license fees realised were Rs. 33,975, of which Rs. 21,624 was from hydraulic presses, Rs. 1,088 from jute mills, Rs. 240 from cotton mills, Rs. 165 from a hand screw, and Rs. 10,857 from jute warehouses, which was altogether Rs. 62 larger than in the preceding year. There were eleven fires during the year, in none of which any very serious damage was caused, the largest amount being Rs. 2,000 in some godowns containing waste jute paper, and cuttings at Chitpur.

WE regret to learn the death from gangrene of Babu Brojonath Mitra one of the leading native Attorneys of the High Court. He was a well read man who understood things other than "shop," and was an able and constant contributor to the Press. A quiet and unostentatious man, his amiable manners and suavity of temper had made him a general favourite, and his premature death is mourned by a large circle of friends and relatives. He had a quiet way of doing good to others that is rare in these days of noisy philanthropy. The melancholy event took place on Saturday before last. Mr. John Hart, another well-known Attorney, died from apoplexy on Tuesday last. He was well-esteemed in his profession and was Secretary to the Attorneys' Association.

WE have received a treatise on *Elementary Hydrostatics* by Babu Sasi Bhusan Mookerjee, M. A., B. L., Assistant Professor of Mathematics, Lahore Government College. The book is intended for the use of students who are preparing for the B. A. Examination in Mathematics as prescribed by Indian Universities, and it is well suited for the purpose. Babu Sasi Bhusan's work is likely to be more useful to Indian students than Besant's treatise. He has treated his subject in a very lucid manner and his mode of treatment is some times fuller than and frequently different from that of Besant. The number of exercises collected at the end of the Chapters, together with the problems collected from the Indian University Question papers, is more copious than the corresponding parts of Besant's work. Babu Sasi Bhusan's book deserves to be popular among Indian students. It has been already introduced, we hear, into the Colleges of the North-Western Provinces, and the Punjab.

THE Reformatories at Alipore and Hazaribagh are institutions which cannot be too highly valued. By saving a large number of juvenile offenders from the polluting company of hardened criminals it helps in moulding the future life and character of boys who may hereafter turn into good and useful citizens. We are therefore glad to notice that both the institutions are progressing well. The number of boys in the Alipur Reformatory last year was 100, but many more might have been admitted had there been accommodation for them. The boys generally

behaved well; there was a slight increase in the punishments of caning and penal diet. The health of the school was also generally good. The percentage of admissions to hospital however increased, owing, it is said, to the number of weak and sickly boys admitted during the last two years. The average earnings of the boys per week amounted to Rs. 2-4-0, an increase of nearly three annas as compared with the previous year, and the amount earned by the different boys is deposited for them in the Government Savings Bank to be made over to them on their release. Though the boys have to work for seven hours a day, and have an hour of compulsory schooling, no less than 90 of them attended the evening school, which was optional. After their release the boys seem to behave well on the whole, as out of 52, of whom reports were received, 9 only were said to bear bad characters. The manufacturing account shows a profit of Rs. 8,521, which is less than last year, owing to the release of many of the older boys, who were the best workmen at those trades, yielding the most profit. In the Hazaribagh Reformatory there were 232 boys. The health of the boys was good, and there was an improvement in the discipline as shown by a large decrease in the punishment of all classes. The total earnings of the boys came to Rs. 517, while the expenditure per head fell from Rs. 108 to Rs. 77, due chiefly to less outlay being incurred in buildings and to the cheaper rates of diet. The manufacture account shows a profit of only Rs. 1,698, as there is very little local demand, and the cost of carriage to Calcutta takes away the greater part of the profit.

THE Star Theatre which has commenced operations in its new building in Cornwallis Street with a new religious drama called *Nashiram*, is nightly drawing good houses in spite of the uncertain weather of the season. Most of the old artistes who made the "Star" so popular in Calcutta are in the cast, and the play has been mounted on board in good style. A better appointed place of amusement there is not in the province, and the fittings are all in luxurious and elegant style. The retiring room at the back of the dress-circle is the very type of elegance and luxurious ease. The mirrored and marbled proscenium and royal box are a feature by themselves, and the scenery has for the most part been painted by European artists. An orchestra in which the string instruments have largely replaced the squeaking brass instruments of old, regales sweet music in the interval, and the comforts and convenience of the visitors are every way consulted.

THE Bengal Theatre, in the meantime, is holding its own. *Pralahad* is patronised as largely as ever, and the "peerless" *Pravas* is maintaining its ground. There are few plays in the whole range of Bengali drama that have had half as large and as continuous a run as these two popular religious pieces, and the result redounds much to the credit of the management and the actors. Some improvements have lately been effected in the theatre and considerable change for the better has been introduced in both the casts.

At a meeting of the Municipal Commissioners of Calcutta held on Thursday last, the Health Officer gave the Commissioners the following explanation about the discourteous language used by him in a recent report of his :—

"I beg to avail myself of the opportunity thus afforded me of expressing my regret that the Commissioners should have considered the passages quoted in the resolution as either discourteous to them, or couched in an exaggerated strain. Nothing could have been further from my thoughts than to be discourteous or disrespectful to the Commissioners, for apart from the weakness and folly of such an attitude, I feel convinced that it would tend rather to thwart than promote the sole purpose of my official position, namely, the sanitary reformation of the town. As regards the first paragraph, I am very glad of this opportunity of saying that it was not my intention to convey any imputation of apathy or neglect against any of the authorities responsible for the control of the water-supply. If the words objected to gave any colour to that impression, I regret it. What I considered my duty to do was

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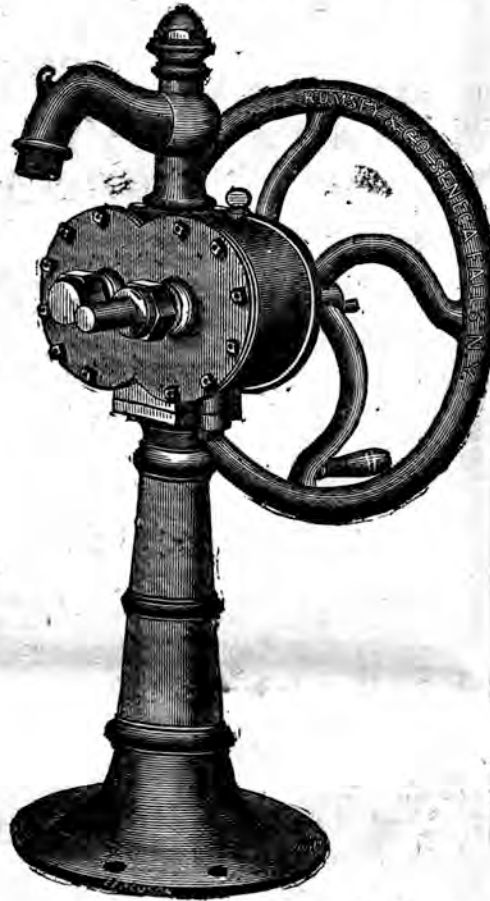
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